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(54) Title: ATTENUATED VIF DNA IMMUNIZATION CASSETTES FOR GENETIC VACCINES

(57) Abstract

The present invention is directed to nucleic acid molecules encoding attenuated, non-functional virion infectivity factor (*vif*) proteins. The nucleic acid molecules of the invention are inserted into recombinant expression vectors and administered to mammals in order to induce a cellular and humoral immune response to the encoded protein product.